

**Exploring Autumn**

In the Exploring Autumn project, your child will learn all about the seasonal changes that happen in autumn. They will learn about birds and animals that live in the woods and how animals adapt as the weather gets colder. They will take part in practical and creative activities that will support them to learn about autumn. They will read fiction and non-fiction books all about this interesting season. They will also explore many different celebrations and festivals that happen in autumn and winter such as Diwali, Bonfire night, Halloween, Hanukkah and Christmas. As the half term progresses, the children will begin to learn about winter and the differences between autumn and winter. They will learn autumn poems and learn a variety of songs ready for their Christmas performance. It will be a very exciting half term!



**Our Core Text is Owl Babies by Martin Waddell.**

Areas of Learning	Early Learning Goals
Communication and Language	Listening, attention and understanding; Speaking
Personal, Social and Emotional Development	Building Relationships; Self-Regulation; Managing Self
Physical Development	Gross Motor Skills; Fine Motor Skills
Literacy	Comprehension; Word Reading; Writing
Mathematics	Numbers; Numerical Patterns
Understanding the World	Past and Present; People, Culture and Communities; The Natural World
Expressive arts and design	Creating with Materials; Being imaginative and Expressive

**Supporting your child at home**

- Go on a walk around your local area and talk about what happens to trees and plants during autumn. Take some pictures to share at school.
- Collect leaves, seeds, nuts and berries to add to an autumn collection.
- Make some bird food to feed the birds as the weather gets colder.
- Share and discuss the ‘Did you know?’ resource below.

**Please fill a bag with autumn treasures and bring it in to school to show the class. We can't wait to see what you find!**

## Homework

Reading with your child (wordless books currently) at least 5 times a week (please write daily in the yellow reading record book). Please return yellow books every **Monday**.

## Autumn term

- Practise weekly sounds taught in school and read ditty sheets when they are sent home
- Practise writing your name (capital letter at the beginning and the rest lower case).
- Practise counting objects to 10 with one-to-one correspondence
- Practise counting (reciting) from 1 to 20

## Reminders

- All children need a bag as they frequently have things to bring home. **A book bag is recommended and can be purchased on ParentPay.**
- Please provide your child with only essential resources e.g. reading book and reading record (reading books are changed every **Monday**)
- Please provide your child with a named, refillable water bottle that is taken home each day for washing.
- Please ensure your child has their name labelled in **all** clothing, as well as their coat, hat, scarf and gloves. We are finding lots of jumpers, cardigans and PE hoodies with no names.
- Please check at home that your child has brought home clothing belonging to them and return any that may have been taken home by accident.

PE will take place every **Wednesday** – please send your child to school wearing their PE kit and sport shoes. The children will be completing PE sessions indoors and outdoors, weather permitting.

We visit the library on a **Monday** – please ensure library books are returned every **Monday**.

The adults in Reception are:

Mrs James – Phase 1 Leader and Class teacher on a Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday

Mrs McGarragh – Deputy Headteacher and Class teacher on a Thursday  
Ms Corbett and Mrs Woods (Teaching Assistants)

Thank you for your continued support,  
Mrs James

Read these interesting facts together.



Autumn is a season



Autumn is the time of year when leaves change colour and fall from the trees.



There are four seasons. They are spring, summer, autumn and winter.



Some animals collect food ready for winter. Squirrels collect nuts, such as acorns, which they bury underground until they need them.



In autumn the weather starts to get colder and the days get shorter.



Some animals, like hedgehogs, get ready to hibernate. This means they will sleep through the cold winter.

Explore this autumn vocabulary together. Can you spot any of these while out on autumn walks?



*acorns*



*autumn*



*badger*



*blackberries*



*conkers*



*fox*



*harvest*



*hedgehog*



*hibernate*



*leaves*



*pine cones*



*pumpkins*



*season*



*spider*



*squirrel*